

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending in the present application and are currently under appeal.

Applicant hereby requests withdrawal of the application from appeal and requests continued examination of the pending application under MPEP §706.07(h). Applicant herewith has submitted a Supplemental IDS including references supplied by a foreign patent office for consideration in the above-captioned application. Furthermore, regarding outstanding claim rejections, Applicant incorporates by reference the arguments submitted in the Response dated July 16, 2009.

Claims 1, 8, 16, 18, 19, 24, and 26 have been amended to clarify the claimed invention, and claims 11-12 have been canceled.

Applicant respectfully believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-10 and 13-27.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration of these Amendments and Remarks and cordially invites the Examiner to call the undersigned, should the Examiner consider any matters unresolved.

Respectfully submitted,

/Paul M. Ratzmann/

Paul M. Ratzmann
Registration No. 62,592
Phone 262-268-8100 ext. 16
pmr@zpspatents.com

Dated: March 23, 2009
Attorney Docket No.: GEMS8081.102

P.O. ADDRESS:
Ziolkowski Patent Solutions Group, SC
136 South Wisconsin Street
Port Washington, WI 53074
262-268-8100

General Authorization and Extension of Time

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-0845. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by credit card authorization being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 07-0845. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extensions under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 07-0845. Please consider this a general authorization to charge any fee that is due in this case, if not otherwise timely paid, to Deposit Account No. 07-0845.

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